

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04323 311159Z

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 /016 W  
-----023029 311200Z /53

P 311112Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8983

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, AEMR, LE

SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY GUARANTEE OF INSURANCE TO MEA CHARTERED AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) STATE 190957, (B) BEIRUT 4246

1. APPRECIATE INFO REFTEL. ECONOFF CONTACTED ASAD NASR WHO CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE PARA (2) REF (A) RE ICRC MARKINGS. ASAD NASR NOTED THAT GENERAL WAR SITUATION, REGARDLESS OF AIRCRAFT MARKINGS, ALSO AFFECTS INSURANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN 1976 AFTER MEA LOST ONE AIRCRAFT TO ROCKET, LLOYD'S CANCELLED INSURANCE ON ENTIRE FLEET FOR BEIRUT OPERATIONS. IN RESPONSE TO SUBSEQUENT EMBASSY INQUIRY RE EMERGENCY EVAC, MEA HAD SOUTHT AD-HOC INSURANCE AND RECEIVED EXORBITANT QUOTE FROM LLOYD'S OF SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS PER PASSENGER. THIS IS THE PROSPECT MEA WOULD BE ADDRESSING IN PRESENT INSTANCE, IRRESPECTIVE OF MARKINGS.

2. PROBLEM BOILS DOWN TO FOLLOWING: EITHER (A) MEA IS NORMALLY INSURED BY LLOYD'S IN WHICH CASE NO USG LETTER IS REQUIRED, OR (B) LLOYD'S SUSPENDS NORMAL INSURANCE, IN WHICH CASE USG MAY ELECT EITHER TO ACCEPT COSTS OF A SPECIAL INSURANCE POLICY FOR CHARTER FLIGHT(S) OR TO PROVIDE MEA A LETTER OF GUARANTEE IN LIEU OF SPECIAL POLICY. EITHER FORM OF INSURANCE IS ACCEPTABLE TO MEA.

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3. MEA'S INSURANCE STATUS AT PRESENT IS NORMAL, CASE (A) ABOVE. SO LONG AS THIS CONDITION HOLDS, NO USG LETTER NEEDED. SHOULD CONDITIONS CHANGE TO (B) ABOVE, EMBASSY WILL FACE THE PREMIUM/LETTER CHOICE. WE NOT IN POSITION TO JUDGE LEGAL MERITS OF THE CHOICE, BUT WE ACCEPT AS COMMON SENSE THAT MEA UNWILLING OPERATE UNINSURED.

4. IN SUM, PROBLEM AT HAND IS NOT ICRC MARKINGS BUT HOW  
TO FURNISH SUBSTITUTE INSURANCE WHEN NORMAL COVERAGE HAS  
BEEN SUSPENDED. REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONSIDER AND ADVISE.  
WITHOUT KNOWING POTENTIAL SPECIAL POLICY COSTS, WE  
FAVOR HAVING ON HAND AUTHORIZED TEXT FOR LETTER OF  
GUARANTEE.  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSURANCE, AIRCRAFT, CONTINGENCY PLANNING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BEIRUT04323  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780312-1249  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 190957, 78 BEIRUT 4246  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 aug 2005  
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**Subject:** CONTINGENCY GUARANTEE OF INSURANCE TO MEA CHARTERED AIRCRAFT  
**TAGS:** EAIR, AEMR, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014